

Region 2 Headquarters 3201 Spurgin Road Missoula, MT 59804-3101 406-542-5500 November 23, 2009

*Governor's Office, Attn: Mike Volesky, PO Box 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801

Environmental Quality Council, PO Box 201704, Helena, MT 59620-1704

*Dept. of Environmental Quality, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901

*Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation, POB 201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601

*Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks:

Website, Commission Secretary, Division Secretaries, Regional Office Managers, Region 2 Information Officer.

*State Historic Preservation Office, PO Box 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1202

*MT State Library, PO BOX 201800, Helena, MT 59620-1800

MT Environmental Information Center, Attn: Jim Jensen, POB 1184, Helena, MT 59624-1184

Montana Wildlife Federation, Attn: Craig Sharpe, POB 1175, Helena, MT 59624-1175

Clearwater Resource Council, Attn: Jon Haufler, PO Box 1471, Seeley Lake, MT 59868-1471

*Region 2 FWP Citizens Advisory Committee

**Blackfoot-Clearwater Citizens Advisory Committee

Missoula County Commissioners, 200 W Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802

Missoula County Weed Supervisor, 2825 Santa Fe Crt, Missoula, MT 59808

Missoula Office of Planning & Grants, 435 Ryman, Missoula, MT 59802

Missoula Rural Initiatives, Attn: Pat O'Herren, 200 W Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802

Missoula Conservation District, 3550 Mullan Rd Ste 106, Missoula, MT 59808-5125

Landowners & Adjacent landowners

Persons submitting comments on the EA

*Emailed notification of the availability of the EA

**Mailed a postcard notification of the availability of the EA

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find the Decision Notice (DN) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) concerning its proposal to exchange approximately 19 acres on the Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area (BCWMA) along the corridor of Montana Highway 83 with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) for a 53-acre parcel that is adjacent to BCWMA's western boundary. This exchange is necessary for MDT's Clearwater Junction-North Project to widen and realign the right-of-way for Highway 83 in Missoula County between Clearwater Junction and Seeley Lake. If implemented, this action would be in lieu of monetary payment from MDT to FWP for right-of-way acquisition across the WMA.

This DN is available for review in Helena at FWP's Headquarters, the State Library and the Environmental Quality Council. It also may be obtained from the Region 2 FWP Headquarters or viewed on FWP's Internet website at http://fwp.mt.gov ("Recent Public Notices").

In consideration of the Draft EA and the DN, I am pleased to recommend that the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission approve the proposed exchange of lands between FWP and MDT at its December 10th meeting in Helena. Approval will also be necessary from the Montana Board of Land Commissioners.

Sincerely,

Mack Long

Regional Supervisor

ML/sr